[29th January 1929

Nomination of Mr. Kuppuswami Mudali to the Polur Taluk Board.

*1125 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the principle of nominating defeated candidates to taluk boards has been condemned by the Government and whether circulars to that effect have been issued to all presidents of district boards;

(b) whether one Mr. Kuppuswami Mudali, the ex-President of the Polur Taluk Board, North Arcot district, stood for election to the Polur Taluk Board and was defeated;

(c) whether Polur Taluk Board had been dissolved on account of the scandals and high-handed administration under this same Kuppuswami Mudali and whether a re-election of all members had been ordered by Government;

(d) whether the President, District Board, North Arcot, nominated this same Kuppuswami Mudali to a seat on the reconstituted Taluk Board of Polur in spite of the above facts;

(e) whether it is a fact that members of the District Board, North Arcot, brought a censure motion against the President of that District Board for this scandalous abuse of his power of nomination; and

(f) whether Government will be pleased to call for a report from the District Board President and take suitable action?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Taluk Board was dissolved and reconstituted in 1927 on account of certain irregularities committed by the then President M.R.Ry. M. S. Kuppuswami Mudaliyar.

(d) Yes. The President, District Board, states that the nomination was made in deference to the desire of a majority of the members of the District Board and in view of mahazars and a deputation from the members of the Sengunda community.

(e) A resolution condemning the action of the President, District Board, was tabled by a member who was however absent at the meeting of the District Board.

(f) The Government have received a report from the President. District Board, and do not propose to take any further action.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"Is the hon. the Minister aware that this Kuppuswami Mudaliyar when he was president of the taluk board mismanaged things so very disgracefully that the report of the inspector of local boards was couched in the strongest language against him?"

The hon. the President:—"It is asking for an opinion."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"A most damaging report has been made by the inspector of local boards, Sir, and I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of that fact."

The hon. the President:—"It is a method of asking for an opinion."

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Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"Is the hon. Minister aware that, even if the Sengundar community has to be satisfied, it is not in the least desirable to nominate this particular person since he has been officially declared to be not only incompetent but one who could bring the administration of a taluk board into contempt ?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—"As I said in answer to another question, as the Act stands, the Government have no right to interfere with the nominations by the president of a district board."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"May I ask the hon. the Minister whether he is aware that the district board president has even recently taken advantage of this fact and has just nominated a defeated candidate as a member ?"

The hon. the President :—"The hon. Member is furnishing very valuable information to Government."

Nominations by the President, District Board, Vizagapatam, to the taluk boards in the district.

* 1126 Q.—Mr. P. C. Venkatapati Raju : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any principles have been laid down by Government for the guidance of presidents of district boards in nominating members to taluk boards and in making recommendations to Government for filling nominated seats in district boards and, if so, what they are ;

(*b*) whether any representations were made to Government during the course of this year about any nominations made by the President, Vizagapatam District Board, to the taluk boards in the district and about his recommendations to the Government regarding nominations to district board that they are contrary to the accepted policy of the Government and, if so, what action was taken thereon ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Government have nominated to the District Board of Vizagapatam this year a person defeated in the elections to the district board from the taluk board on the recommendation of the president ;

(*d*) if so, what are the circumstances that necessitated such deviation from their policy ; and

(*e*) whether the Government were informed by the said president of the fact that the person recommended was defeated in the election to the district board and that he is a nominated member of a taluk board ?

A.—(*a*) No principles other than those in section 9 (5) of the Madras Local Boards Act have been laid down by Government.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The person appointed belongs to a backward and minority community.

(*e*) The President reported that his nominee was defeated in the election to the district board but not that he was a nominated member of the taluk board.